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*Monday,
2nd March, 1953.*

HYDERABAD LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY DEBATES

Official Report

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HYDERABAD LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

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RAJPRAMUKH OF HYDERABAD

HIS EXALTED HIGHNESS THE NIZAM OF HYDERABAD

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10. „ SHANKER DEV, Social Service Minister.

THE HYDERABAD LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Monday, 2nd March, 1953.

The House met at Four of the Clock.

The Rajpramukh H.E.H. the Nizam, on arrival was received at the entrance of the Speaker's Chamber by the Speaker, Shri Kashinath Rao Vaidya.

The arrival of the Rajpramukh was announced by the Secretary to the hon. Members who stood up as the Rajpramukh accompanied by the Speaker entered the House. The Members resumed their seats after the Rajpramukh and the Speaker took their seats on the dais. The Speaker sat on the right side of the Rajpramukh.

(At this time the Members of the P.D.F., left the House).

The Rajpramukh, H.E.H. the Nizam, then delivered the following address :—

Mr. Speaker and hon. Members, I had the privilege of welcoming you this time last year to the Inaugural Session of this elected Legislature for the first time in the annals of the State. I have the added pleasure in addressing you again to-day after nearly a year of popular Government.

One year is too short a time for any Government, even a democratic Government, to produce spectacular results and achievements. If all the aims before us have not been realised, it certainly is not due to lack of earnestness or application. Therefore, when an assessment of the achievements during this period is attempted, it would be necessary to look at them in their true perspective in the background of the limitations—economic and financial—under which the Government had to function.

There have been three Sessions of this Assembly during last year. Thirty-three Acts and one Ordinance have been placed on the Statute Book. Consequent on the abolition of the internal Customs, the rate of Sales

Tax had to be enhanced, certain cash grants were abolished and some more categories are under examination. A saving of about Rs. 7½ lakhs has been obtained, and another Rs. 25 lakhs are expected to be saved if the other items are also abolished.

As it is not customary to place on the Agenda many new Bills during the Budget Session, only 8 Bills will be coming up for consideration along with such others as might have been introduced in the previous Sessions.

I would refer to the proposals relating to the Land Reforms placed before you in the form of an Amending Bill, which have been under contemplation of my Government for some time. Involving as they do proposals of far-reaching consequence, they required a great deal of scrutiny and examination by the Planning Commission also, as the latter body have laid down recently certain broad principles and policies on which Land Reforms have to be based. Under the circumstances, a certain amount of delay was inevitable, but, it is hoped the Draft Bill in the form in which it has emerged would meet the aspirations of the people to a great extent and would prove to be a sufficiently progressive landmark in the history of Land Reforms in India. As will be clear, the main object of the Bill is to move in the direction of the tiller of the land becoming the owner.

The second important Bill is the Enfranchisement of Inams Bill which, when enacted, would bring in some additional revenue to Government.

The Revenue Department was engaged in implementing the provisions of the existing Tenancy and Agricultural Lands Act, reviewing the work done and in drafting the measure which will be introduced in the form of a Bill.

Special Laoni Rules have been brought into force to speed up grant of lands to landless Harijans and Backward Classes; nearly 50,000 acres have been granted so far. Committees have been set up to recommend measures for reclamation and assignment of fallow lands to Backward Classes and a survey of such lands has been put on hand. More than 700 acres have been acquired to provide house-sites to Harijans.

As, due to adverse seasonal conditions, scarcity conditions were prevailing in certain parts of the State, Rs. 11.75 lakhs and Rs. 3.70 lakhs respectively for relief works and taccavi loans have been sanctioned. This is in addition to suspension of 'kist' and other concessions under the rules. The task of bringing the ex-jagir villages on a par with the diwani villages was continued; in more than 500 villages the rates of assessment have been scaled down to the level obtaining in diwani villages, and in the others, pending such action, temporary relief has been given by suspending 25% of the assessment.

Record of tenancies have been completed in 21,798 villages, the remaining villages having no tenants. There are in all 6,12,445 protected tenants to whom tenancy certificates have been issued. They are in possession of approximately 75 lakhs of acres, which is about a third of the total cultivated area. As Government had to face an abnormal situation created by large scale evictions and illegal sales, an Ordinance was promulgated to restore possession.

A policy of progressive and cautious decontrol is being pursued in line with that adopted by all other States and the Centre. In spite of adverse seasonal conditions last year, the procurement was satisfactory. It is hoped that in regard to millets at least the State would be self-sufficient, though rice may have to be imported to the extent of about 40,000 tons. It is a matter for gratification that during the current year about 17,500 tons of jawar was supplied to the sister-States of Bombay, Madras and Mysore. Future policy will have to be carefully shaped especially in view of the adverse seasonal conditions in some parts of the State. This policy of progressive decontrol adopted by my Government would result in retrenchment, and the Government has been exploring all possible avenues of absorption of retrenched employees.

The revised system of procurement introduced last year is confined to rice and paddy. Millets are procured through traders at a fixed price and procurement from cultivators directly has been given up. The restrictions on procurement of foodgrains within the State have been relaxed and this has rendered the position easier both in rural and urban areas. Statutory and informal ration-

ing in the districts has been abolished. The prices of locally produced foodgrains have been well under control, though imported grains are costly. Generally speaking, there seems to be a downward trend in the prices of foodgrains. With increased production, it is hoped that the State would return to normalcy and be able to be self-sufficient within the next two years.

As you are aware, cloth and yarn have been completely decontrolled and the position in this respect has considerably improved.

Agricultural farms have been improved and schemes for development of agriculture in the area under Tungabhadra have been taken up. The Five-Year Plan for agricultural development is estimated to cost Rs. 3.50 crores and the work is well on the way. During this plan period, the target of production of food is an additional 6.24 lakh tons. To step up food production, a systematic repairing of breached tanks has been taken up and the Government of India have allotted a sum of Rs.73 lakhs to this State by way of loans for this purpose.

The major irrigation project of Tungabhadra is progressing satisfactorily, and it is expected that the dam will be completed in June this year, and it will be possible to let out water for irrigation. The work on the canal is also progressing. Investigations are being made regarding certain medium sized projects especially in Marathwada area.

During the cyclonic gale in 1952, many tanks in Mahbubnagar district had been damaged affecting an area of 47,000 acres. 338 tanks serving an area of about 20,000 acres have been repaired by the end of June 1952 and the interests of Abi cultivation were safeguarded. The rest of the tanks will be taken up this year. A scheme for restoration of 2,915 tanks throughout the State including ex-jagir areas estimated to cost I.G. Rs. 246 lakhs and commanding 1,90,000 acres has been sanctioned to be completed in a period of 3 years.

Over 2.15 lakhs of acres were brought under wet cultivation as a result of completion of several irrigation schemes. Three medium-sized Projects and some minor Projects have also been sanctioned to irrigate another 10,350 acres.

My Government are pursuing their efforts to have the Tungabhadra Hydro-Electric Project included in the first Five-Year Plan. Other steps are also being taken to meet the increasing demand for power in the Cities of Hyderabad and Secunderabad by linking up the Nizam Sagar Hydro-Electric Scheme and Ramagundam Station with the Hussain Sagar Power Station.

The implementation of the Five-Year Plan has not proceeded according to schedule, mainly for financial reasons. It was estimated that out of Rs. 42 crores that were needed for the implementation of the Five-Year Plan, this Government would be able to finance to the extent of Rs. 32 crores and Central assistance would be available to the tune of Rs. 10 crores. These estimates were based on the expectation that Rs. 6 crores would be raised by additional taxation and Rs. 6 crores by loans. Although these estimates are not likely to materialise during the period of Planning, a certain amount of expenditure inherent in the pre-plan development schemes has inevitably increased resulting in the diminution of resources which were expected to be available for the implementation of the Plan. It has, therefore, become necessary to approach the Government of India to increase the quota of Central assistance by another nine crores, during the remaining period of the Plan. The recent increase in subvention has eased the situation a little, but the fact that the amount of Rs. 86 lakhs provided for nation-building activities of the Government in the budget for 1952-53 could not be released fully due to financial limitations, is a matter for anxiety and regret to my Government as it is to you. Every effort is being made to cut down expenditure of items without impairing the efficiency of administration. But there is a limit for this too. Certain Departments are expanding and have to expand their activities, and economies in one direction are counteracted by expansion in another. It is hoped that the Government of India will appreciate the peculiar difficulties my Government is faced with and will come to its aid especially in matters of increased financial assistance. The irrigation schemes included in the Five-Year Plan, for example, have a top priority which cannot be ignored. I am glad to say, however, that the recent discussions, which my Government had with the Planning Commission and the Finance Minister of the Government of India, have been fruitful.

It is gratifying to note that the financial outlook has shown some signs of improvement since I addressed you last year. On the representation of my Government to the Finance Commission on the financial position of the State generally and more especially on the inadequacy of the Central subvention fixed under the Federal Financial Integration arrangements, a larger grant has now been made. Hyderabad's share in the divisible pool of income-tax and Union Excise duties has been fixed at 4.5% and 5.39 respectively, raising the Central subvention from I.G. Rs. 116 lakhs to I.G. Rs. 342 lakhs for 1952-53 and Rs. 333 lakhs for 1953-54.

Other grants and aids received from the Centre are :—

- (a) a special grant for extension of primary education of I.G. Rs. 120 lakhs spread over a period of 4 years commencing from 1953-54 has been made ;
- (b) a grant of Rs. 73 lakhs for restoration of breached tanks ; and
- (c) a grant of Rs. 37 lakhs in the current year under the Labour Housing Scheme.

As you are aware, import customs were totally abolished from 1st August, 1952, resulting in loss of over R. 2.00 crores to the State Exchequer, which was to be covered by an enhancement of the Sales Tax.

In common with other States, it has been decided to appoint the Reserve Bank of India as the sole bankers of Government for a period of 5 years in the first instance with effect from 1st April, 1953. The Hyderabad State Bank will be the sole agents of the Reserve Bank of India in so far as the handling of the State Government transactions is concerned. All Government transactions including floatation of new loans will in future be attended to by the Reserve Bank of India.

As from 1st April, 1953, the O.S. currency will be withdrawn from circulation gradually and the Indian currency would prevail as in the rest of India. In order to avoid possible serious dislocation in the economy of the country and to render the change-over smooth, all possible arrangements are being made to provide necessary conversion

facilities at all branches of the Hyderabad State Bank, District Treasuries and Sub-Treasuries.

All the armed forces on deputation from other States were repatriated by 31st May 1952. One armed battalion has been retrenched in 1952 and another will be retrenched from April this year. It has been possible to cut down expenditure on Police drastically with the return of conditions approximating to normalcy. My Government intend to reduce the expenditure further. During the year many officers and personnel have been repatriated according to schedule. Reorganization of the City Police on the lines prevalent in the adjoining States will be taken up.

There has been a progressive decline in the number of detenus from 554 in March 1952 to only 4 at the end of February 1953. A Committee has been set up to reorganise the jail industries. A juvenile Court presided over by a Lady Magistrate has been established. My Government have under contemplation the promotion of progressive laws like the Brostal Act and the Probation of Offenders Act aiming at converting jails into centres of reformation. Prisoners' Panchayat Boards have been introduced to take care of amenities for the jail population. Other similar measures are also under consideration.

My Government intend to appoint a Committee to study the extent of corruption in public service in the State and to make recommendations to effectively put it down. They are at the same time considering proposals for the re-organization and strengthening of the anti-corruption branch of the Police Department.

There has been considerable expansion of the activities in the Medical and Public Health Department. A.T.B. Sanatorium and general hospital have been started at Mominabad, Bhir district, and a new ward of 45 beds has been added to the T.B. Hospital at Hyderabad with the help of the Indian Conference of Social Workers. The Princess Niloufer Hospital will shortly be commissioned and used as a first class maternity Hospital. The Osmania Medical College has been taken over by the Medical Department in order to afford better facilities for medical education. A fully equipped blood bank has also been attached to the Osmania Hospital.

With the help of the World Health Organization, it is proposed, during the year 1953-54 to equip the Niloufer Hospital to extend the B.C.G. vaccination work on a large scale, establish 22 rural health units, provide 8 mobile vans for work in the districts and also to train up nurses, mid-wives and health visitors, providing for residential accommodation and stipends where necessary.

In the current year, reorganisation measures in the Education Department were taken up for better economy in administration, greater co-ordination and efficiency. The basic education centres, the domestic science training college for women and the school of music and dance were raised to their full status and 170 primary schools and 70 middle schools were converted to middle and high schools respectively by opening additional classes. The report of the Experts' Committee on Technical Education is under consideration of Government. The Hyderabad Compulsory Primary Education Act is an important landmark and the provisions of his Act will be first applied to selected villages in the Community Project area. Grants-in-aid to private institutions have been liberalised, and rules made uniform. Schemes for large scale expansion of primary education are under consideration of my Government for which special grants are made available by the Government of India for the next Four years. An examination of the secondary education system will be taken up after the recommendations of the Secondary Education Committee appointed by the Government of India are published.

The production of the two textile mills in the State—Azam Jahi and the Osman Shahi Mills—is expected to increase by 50% as a result of additional equipment installed during the past 2 years. The production in the Shahabad Cement Works will also go up similarly. The production capacity of the Sugar Factory of Bodhan has increased by 200% and of coal and paper by 25% and 100% respectively.

As you are aware, most of the industrial concerns have had to contend against serious financial and other difficulties and my Government have been doing their best to help the industries through these difficult times. It is likely that some of the factories whose financial condition is unsound or whose finished

goods are not marketable on a competitive basis may have to be closed down. It is the policy of my Government to avoid such closures as far as possible in view of the un-employment that such a step will lead to.

The question of establishing cottage industries on a sound basis is receiving attention. During 1953-54, it is proposed to open Centres where training facilities will be available in spinning, weaving, leather works, potteries, smithy, carpentry, etc. My Government have decided to set up a Handicrafts Board for the development of Cottage Industries.

The establishment of a State Industrial Finance Corporation is another important matter which is engaging the attention of the Government.

The work of relief and rehabilitation of displaced persons continued to receive necessary attention from my Government. In addition to opening of cottage industries centres, grant of stipends, scholarships and subsistence pensions, recently, a lakh of rupees was granted out of the Military Governor's Fund for providing zinc sheets to those whose houses have been destroyed. In all a sum of nearly one crore of rupees has been spent on relief and rehabilitation measures during the last 3 years. A Social Rehabilitation Committee consisting of non-officials was set up to look after the Social Rehabilitation of orphans, young girls and widows.

The number of strikes and lock-outs was on the decline and generally industrial peace was maintained. The Shops and Establishments Act was extended to more places in the State.

A scheme for Labour-housing has been undertaken. Construction of 300 two-room tenements was completed and work of constructing 1,720 one-room tenements is in progress through Labour Co-operative Societies. This has been largely possible due to the aid given by the Centre which has been mentioned by me already.

A considerable number of men released from the Hyderabad Army, who have registered themselves with the Employment Exchange, have been absorbed in the various Departments and rehabilitated in the Schemes financed by the Post-war Reconstruction Fund.

Committees under the Minimum Wages Act for fixation of minimum wages for workers in sweated industries and industrial labour, have been set up.

135 new Co-operative Societies of various types were established during the year. A scheme for extending short-term rural credit with the assistance of the Reserve Bank, is under consideration as also a proposal to introduce a new debt-relief legislation to help relieve the rural indebtedness. Some Land Mortgage Banks have been established and have begun work. It is intended to add to their number shortly.

The Veterinary Department concentrated its attention on the work of control of epidemics, investigation of various animal diseases and implementation of various schemes relating to Animal Husbandry. Vaccination against rinderpest and other diseases was carried on on an extensive scale. The establishment of new dispensaries in taluqa headquarters is under contemplation.

It is satisfactory to note that Elections on the basis of Adult Franchise to all the City Municipalities in the State have been completed and that the programme for Town Municipalities will also be completed shortly. The Village Panchayats have been reorganised and the work of reorganisation of the District Boards is going on and a Bill to take the place of the old A'in is before you for consideration. Special attention is necessary in order to place local bodies on a sound footing as early as possible, as they serve the purpose of training ground for more onerous work in a democratic set up.

Water-supply schemes for Aurangabad, Hingoli, Raichur, Nanded, Osmanabad, Bidar and Parbhani have made steady progress. The recommendations of the Environmental Hygiene Committee of the Government of India are under consideration of the Government.

Various ameliorative measures have been taken up under the Tribal Welfare Scheme. More than 2.30 lakhs of acres have been allotted to the Tribals for cultivation already. 15 Co-operative Multi-purpose Societies, 113 schools and 13 Rehabilitation Centres have been organised and are working satisfactorily.

The colonisation of the Lambadas has been receiving special attention. Two colonies have been set up, three

more are under way and Educational and other facilities have been provided in these colonies.

A separate provision of Rs. 10 lakhs was made in the Budget by my Government for Harijan welfare.

Under the Children's Protection Act, No. IX of 1947 F., 23,500 children have been registered, 21 Samaj Seva Kendras comprising of over 64 villages have been opened in all the districts and trained village level workers have been posted to these places to inculcate the spirit of voluntary labour.

A Beggar Home has been started with a modest provision to accommodate 50 beggars.

I have mentioned a few important activities of the Government, illustrative rather than exhaustive, during this short period of one year. I do not wish to take up more of your time as undoubtedly all these matters in greater detail will be covered by your deliberations during this session. I have one more observation to make before I close. My Government is doing its best to stimulate and accelerate the economic regeneration of the State. It is actuated by a sincere desire to undertake and strive for the upliftment of the people. My Government needs all co-operation from all parties in the discharge of its heavy responsibilities. There are no difficulties that could not be surmounted and no task that cannot be made lighter, if there should be a correct spirit of trust, mutual co-operation and service to humanity. If the problems that face you are approached with this attitude, I have no hesitation whatsoever that success will attend your efforts in the common task of reconstruction that is facing you. I am sure that that spirit of co-operation and mutual help will be available in abundant measure. I wish you God speed in your deliberations. JAI HIND

4-35 p.m. the Rajpramukh then left the House accompanied by the Speaker.

4-37 p.m. [Mr. Speaker returned back to the House and resumed his seat].

Shri Newasekar (Aurangabad): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that an address be presented to the Rajpramukh, H.E.H. the Nizam, in the following terms :—

12 2nd March, 1954 *Motion for Address of Thanks to Rajpramukh (Motion Moved).*

“ That we, the Members of the Hyderabad Legislative Assembly assembled in this session, offer our sincere thanks to the Rajpramukh for the address, which he has been pleased to deliver.”

Mr. Speaker : Motion moved, that an address be presented the Rajpramukh, H.E.H. the Nizam, in the following terms :—

“ That we, the Members of the Hyderabad Legislative Assembly assembled in this session, offer our sincere thanks to the Rajpramukh for the address, which he has been pleased to deliver ”.

Shri V. D. Deshpande (Ippaguda) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, as this is a policy statement of the Government, we will like sufficient time to peruse, study and then prepare our amendments. I therefore, suggest that the time to submit our amendments should be extended to day-after-tomorrow 12 noon. Secondly, I want the time for discussion also to be extended, as this is a policy statement and we have to consider all our points. Therefore, I submit, that both the things should be postponed to day-after-tomorrow.

Mr. Speaker : Does the hon. Member want time for moving the amendments to be extended till day-after-tomorrow ?

Shri V. D. Deshpande : Yes, the time for both the moving of amendments and discussion should be extended.

The Chief Minister (Shri B. Ramakrishna Rao) : Mr. Speaker Sir, as long as we have got a sufficient programme for tomorrow, I will have no objection to the suggestion made by the hon. Member for Ippaguda.

Shri V. D. Deshpande : I would like to point out that I speak here as Leader of the Opposition and if the hon. Chief Minister expects that he should be called as the Leader of the House, he should have the courtesy to refer to us as we are, I mean the Leader of the Opposition.

Mr. Speaker : The time for tabling amendments is given to 12 noon day-after-tomorrow and also the discussion on the motion will be taken up on that very day.

Motion for Address of Thanks to • 2nd March, 1953 13
Rajpramukh (Motion Moved). .

. The House then adjourned till Two of the clock, on
Tuesday the 3rd March, 1953.

